

Introduced by Senator Steinberg

February 1, 2011

An act to add and repeal Article 5.5 (commencing with Section 54698) of Chapter 9 of Part 29 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Education Code, relating to partnership academies.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 148, as introduced, Steinberg. Partnership academies: Clean Technology and Renewable Energy Job Training, Career Technical Education, and Dropout Prevention Program.

Existing law establishes the partnership academies program as a school-business partnership program to provide occupational training to educationally disadvantaged high school pupils. Under existing law, the Superintendent of Public Instruction is required to award grants to school districts maintaining high schools to plan, establish, and maintain these partnership academies.

Existing law requires the surcharge imposed on the consumption of electricity in the state to be transferred to the Energy Resources Programs Account in the General Fund, which is available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for ongoing energy programs and projects.

This bill would require the Controller annually to allocate \$8,000,000 from the Energy Resources Program Account, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for expenditure in the form of grants to school districts to be allocated pursuant to the existing provisions for creating and maintaining partnership academies. The bill would require a grantee to implement or maintain a partnership academy that focuses on employment in clean technology businesses and renewable energy businesses and provides

skilled workforces for the products and services for energy or water conservation, or both, renewable energy, pollution reduction, or other technologies.

The bill would require the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, in consultation with the State Department of Education, to develop guidelines, which would be exempted from the Administrative Procedure Act, to ensure that programs receiving grants reflect current state energy policies and priorities as well as provide skills and education linked to the needs of relevant industries.

The bill would authorize a school district to apply for planning grants for implementing a partnership academy and would allow the Superintendent to expend up to 5% of the funds transferred to the Superintendent to pay the costs incurred in the administration of this program. The bill would require the Superintendents, in consultation with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, to provide a report to the Legislature that includes a description of the curriculum and substance of the programs funded by grants awarded pursuant to these provisions, and specified data. The bill would provide that the bill's provisions would become inoperative on June 30, 2017, and, as of January 1, 2018, would repeal these provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Article 5.5 (commencing with Section 54698) is
2 added to Chapter 9 of Part 29 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the
3 Education Code, to read:

4
5 Article 5.5. Clean Technology and Renewable Energy Job
6 Training, Career Technical Education, and Dropout Prevention
7 Program
8

9 54698. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
10 following:

11 (1) California's international leadership in renewable energy,
12 energy conservation, clean technology, and climate change policies
13 creates significant opportunities to improve workforce development

1 and educational opportunities for high school pupils in the fields
2 of energy conservation, clean technology, and renewable energy.

3 (2) California has an opportunity to combine the education and
4 training of both its future college-educated workforce and its highly
5 skilled technical workforce with its effort to reduce high school
6 dropout rates. Clean technology jobs and renewable energy jobs
7 (“green collar jobs”) can provide underserved communities with
8 a pathway out of poverty, a new and inspiring focus for educational
9 institutions, and significant statewide economic and environmental
10 benefits.

11 (3) A poll of at-risk California 9th and 10th graders by Peter D.
12 Hart Research Associates found that six in 10 pupils were not
13 motivated to succeed in school. Of those pupils, more than 90
14 percent said they would be more engaged in their education if
15 classes helped them acquire skills and knowledge relevant to future
16 careers. Career technical education programs that create paths to
17 further education, advanced training, or productive jobs in high
18 opportunity careers can keep pupils engaged and on track toward
19 a diploma.

20 (4) Investments in delivering pupils the skills and knowledge
21 needed for further education and employment in industries that
22 focus on renewable energy, energy conservation, clean
23 technologies, and climate change mitigation will provide multiple
24 benefits to California in all of the following ways:

25 (A) Helping to achieve the state’s climate change goals required
26 by the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Division
27 25.5 (commencing with Section 38500) of the Health and Safety
28 Code).

29 (B) Creating employment opportunities for Californians that
30 would otherwise not be fully realized.

31 (C) Expanding the state’s utilization of renewable energy.

32 (D) Contributing to the growth of clean technology businesses
33 in California.

34 (5) Absent action, California will miss an opportunity to curtail
35 high school dropout and joblessness rates among its young people
36 and will perpetuate the lack of an integrated education, workforce
37 development, and business infrastructure that otherwise could take
38 advantage of the projected growth in these industries and the
39 corresponding increase in state and local taxes, other public

1 revenues, and additional economic benefits associated with a likely
2 surge in clean technology and renewable energy jobs.

3 (6) California must prioritize the reduction of high school
4 dropout and joblessness rates among its young people. It must also
5 ensure that pupils have pathways to careers that will help achieve
6 its greenhouse gas reduction goals and contribute to the
7 development of its renewable energy resources.

8 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to stimulate the economy
9 of the State of California by creating partnership academies that
10 will lead to the creation of good paying jobs in industries and
11 businesses that are in compliance with the state's environmental
12 protection laws and regulations, providing entrepreneurs and
13 employers the best-trained workforce in the United States, and
14 preparing young people to work in clean, green industries and
15 professions. These jobs would help achieve California's climate
16 change mitigation obligations and conserve our state's vital
17 resources of water, air quality, land, and energy.

18 54698.1. As used in this article, the following terms have the
19 following meanings:

20 (a) "Clean technology business" means a business that focuses
21 on one or more of the following:

22 (1) Energy audits for determining the energy savings that could
23 be recovered through utility bill financing.

24 (2) Retrofitting and weatherization activities that increase energy
25 efficiency and conservation.

26 (3) Energy- and water-efficient public buildings.

27 (4) Retrofitting and installing energy-efficient household
28 appliances, windows, doors, insulation, and lighting.

29 (5) Retrofitting and installing water and energy conservation
30 technologies in existing homes, industrial buildings, commercial
31 and public buildings, and farms, forestlands, and ranches, to
32 improve efficiency, including the use of energy and water
33 management technologies and control systems.

34 (6) The manufacture, sale, assembly, installation, construction,
35 and maintenance of energy-efficient technologies and renewable
36 energy facilities or the component parts of renewable energy
37 technologies.

38 (7) Energy-efficient technologies or practices and renewable
39 energy production or the component parts of renewable energy
40 plants and energy distribution, including energy storage, energy

1 infrastructure (including transmission), transportation (including
2 logistics), clean vehicle technology, clean heat and power, and
3 water and wastewater (including water conservation).

4 (8) Natural resource conservation for the purpose of adapting
5 to climate change, including fish and wildlife habitat restoration,
6 reforestation, native species preservation, invasive species
7 eradication, community tree planting, and other activities that
8 address stressors on natural resources generated by climate change.

9 (b) “Renewable energy business” means a business that focuses
10 on one or more of the following:

11 (1) Research and development, manufacturing, generation,
12 development, or maintenance of appropriately sited power line
13 transmission.

14 (2) Power storage.

15 (3) Installation, repair, maintenance, or related activities
16 necessary to produce energy from wind, photovoltaic, solar
17 thermal, geothermal, biomass, including cellulosic ethanol,
18 biodiesel, and biomass power, green waste, and fuel cells.

19 54699. (a) The Controller shall annually allocate the sum of
20 eight million dollars (\$8,000,000) from the Energy Resources
21 Program Account, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the
22 Superintendent for expenditure in the form of grants to school
23 districts, that shall be allocated using the same criteria as provided
24 in Article 5 (commencing with Section 54690), except as provided
25 in subdivision (b) of Section 54691, and pursuant to the additional
26 requirements of this article.

27 (b) In addition to the requirements specified in Article 5
28 (commencing with Section 54690), a school district applying for
29 a grant shall propose to implement a partnership academy, or to
30 maintain an existing academy, that focuses on employment in clean
31 technology businesses or renewable energy businesses and provides
32 skilled workforces for the products and services for energy or water
33 conservation, or both, renewable energy, pollution reduction, or
34 other technologies that improve the environment in furtherance of
35 state environmental laws.

36 (c) The Superintendent shall review grant applications submitted
37 by school districts in consultation with the State Energy Resources
38 Conservation and Development Commission.

39 (d) The Superintendent, in consultation with the State Energy
40 Resources Conservation and Development Commission, shall

1 review ongoing programs to ensure that those programs are
2 consistent with current state energy policies and priorities.

3 (e) (1) The State Energy Resources Conservation and
4 Development Commission, in consultation with the department,
5 shall develop guidelines to ensure that programs receiving grants
6 reflect current state energy policies and priorities as well as provide
7 skills and education linked to the needs of relevant industries.

8 (2) For the initial adoption of guidelines, the commission shall
9 provide written notice to the public of not less than 30 days.

10 (3) For substantive amendments to the guidelines, the
11 commission shall provide written public notice of not less than 15
12 days.

13 (4) Notwithstanding any other law, guidelines adopted pursuant
14 to this article shall be exempt from the requirements of Chapter
15 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of
16 Title 2 of the Government Code.

17 (f) (1) The Superintendent shall give first priority for grants
18 pursuant to this article to school districts that propose to establish
19 a partnership academy at schoolsites that do not currently
20 participate in the partnership academies program pursuant to Article
21 5 (commencing with Section 54690) and shall give second priority
22 to school districts that would establish a partnership academy at
23 schoolsites that do not currently participate in the green partnership
24 academies program funded pursuant to Section 32 of Chapter 757
25 of the Statutes of 2008.

26 (2) The Superintendent shall award grants to a school district
27 to establish or operate a partnership academy pursuant to this article
28 in the following amounts:

29 (A) A district operating a partnership academy may receive one
30 thousand dollars (\$1,000) per year for each qualified student
31 enrolled in grade 9 in an academy during the first year of that
32 academy's operation, except no more than forty-five thousand
33 dollars (\$45,000) may be granted to any one academy for the initial
34 year.

35 (B) A district operating a partnership academy may receive one
36 thousand dollars (\$1,000) per year for each qualified student
37 enrolled in either grade 9 or 10 in an academy during the second
38 year of that academy's operation except that no more than eighty
39 thousand dollars (\$80,000) may be granted to any one academy
40 for the second year.

1 (C) A district operating a partnership academy may receive one
2 thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each qualified student enrolled in
3 any of grades 9 to 11, inclusive, in an academy during the third
4 year of that academy's operation, except that no more than one
5 hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$120,000) may be granted to
6 any one academy for the third year.

7 (D) A district operating a partnership academy may receive one
8 thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each qualified student enrolled in
9 any of grades 9 to 12, inclusive, in an academy during the fourth
10 and following years of that academy's operation, except that no
11 more than one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) may be
12 granted to any one academy for each fiscal year.

13 (3) For purposes of this section, "qualified student" has the same
14 meaning as described in subdivision (c) of Section 54691, but shall
15 also include a 9th grade pupil who meets the at-risk criteria
16 specified in Section 54690, who is enrolled in an academy for the
17 9th grade, obtains 90 percent of the credits each academic year in
18 courses that are required for graduation, and successfully completes
19 a school year during the 9th grade with an attendance record of
20 not less than 80 percent.

21 (g) The Superintendent may award a grant to a school district
22 that has received a grant pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with
23 Section 54690), subject to subdivision (d) and the availability of
24 funds.

25 (h) The Superintendent shall encourage a school district that
26 receives a grant under this article to work and coordinate with
27 regional occupational centers and programs for the required career
28 technical education sequence of courses.

29 (i) A school district may apply for planning grants, in accordance
30 with subdivision (a) of Section 54691, for implementing a
31 partnership academy pursuant to this article.

32 (j) Commencing in 2013 and not later than January 1 of each
33 year for which this article is operative, the Superintendent, in
34 consultation with the State Energy Resources Conservation and
35 Development Commission, shall provide a report to the Legislature
36 that includes, but is not limited to, a description of the curriculum
37 and substance of the programs funded by grants awarded pursuant
38 to this article. The first annual report shall include the identification
39 of gaps in available curricula relating to clean technology and
40 renewable energy that are consistent with current state energy

1 policy and priorities. Commencing in 2014, the report also shall
2 include pupil participation data and data collected for purposes of
3 academy certification under subdivision (e) of Section 54691.

4 (k) Up to 5 percent of the funds transferred to the Superintendent
5 pursuant to this article may be expended to pay the costs incurred
6 in the administration of this article.

7 54699.1. This article shall become inoperative on June 30,
8 2017, and, as of January 1, 2018, is repealed, unless a later enacted
9 statute, that becomes operative on or before January 1, 2018,
10 deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and
11 is repealed.